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CATALOGING

Irving Swalwell

My own system of cataloging is quite simple and probably not involved enough to suit rabid specialists. It is modeled after the Mitchell-Hoover catalog of Bureau precancels, where each separate design or name is first illustrated and then given a type number. Within the type number there would be a consecutive Handbook Number along with a Scott's number for further identification. Heading each type would be the name and address of the firm or person using that particular type illustrated. I firmly believe that the simplest solution would be to actually illustrate each separate design. This is easily done on a mimeograph but would require different treatment for printing. In my catalog each type is in a normal readable position unless specified otherwise. Also I make a separate notation if the punch is on a precancel for that would further good identification.

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